

April 29

Jeremiah 44:4-6

**“Wasted
Warnings?”**



**my servants the prophets,
rising early and sending
them, saying, Oh, do not
this abominable thing that I
hate.**

**⁵ But they hearkened not,
nor inclined their ear to turn
from their wickedness, to
burn no incense unto other
gods.**

**⁶ Wherefore my fury and
mine anger was poured
forth, and was kindled in
the cities of Judah and in
the streets of Jerusalem;
and they are
wasted and desolate,**

as at this day.

Of this, and situations similar to it, where God warns and warns, but to no avail, more often than not, humans disregard mercy.

They see God's
patience
as impotence or as
God's non-existence.
Many are hard-hearted

and disbelieving—
for a reason.

Where evil flourishes,
even good has great
potential to go bad. For
many, not seeing is not
believing. When
nothing is done and
seemingly there are no
consequences for bad
behavior, that way
continues and even
worsens. Then,

suddenly God slams
and annihilates, but by
then, it's too late.

Punishment? Many
think God can't or
won't punish because
he doesn't seem to do
that often, if ever— as
far as they can tell.

Rebellious,
stiff-necked, hardened,
law-of-God breakers
decide that since God

allows what they do,
it's either not so bad,
he must not be able to
stop it, he doesn't
really care, or he really
isn't there at all. If he
does exist, he must be
too sweet or too weak
because he lets even his
own messengers be
killed.

God's warnings,

however, are not
wasted.

They purposefully will
serve as a testimony
against the
disobedient. There's a
song which
was first recorded by
Blind Willie Johnson
entitled, "Nobody's
Fault But Mine". The
haunting sounds and
words of that work

address warnings,
responsibilities, and
consequences of
wayward wickedness.

FYI, a few good
performances of this
song are by Nina
Simone, Sister Rosetta
Tharpe, The Blind Boys
of Alabama, The Staple
Singers, Flossie Boyd-
Johnson, and Johnny

Shines.

The lyrics are as
follows:

🎵 *Nobody's fault
but mine. Nobody's
fault but mine.
If I die and my
soul be lost.
Nobody's fault but
mine.*

Indeed, it may well appear as if God's warnings were for some other people or for some other time or just nonsense stories designed to scare and control the masses.

Nonetheless, come judgment (according to Scripture), there will be no legitimate excuses. Plenty of

warnings were given
but, “they
hearkened not, nor
inclined their ear to
turn from their
wickedness...”

Would wicked people
change their ways
if they knew they
were setting the stage
for their own eternal
demise—that they were

“hanging themselves”
and setting themselves
up to be without
excuse one day?

We may ask ourselves,
are God’s warnings
wasted warnings?